

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This Amendment is submitted in response to the Office action dated September 10, 2004.

Objections to the Specification

In the specification, the text from page 17, line 1 to page 19, line 7 has been amended so that the reference numerals properly refer to Fig. 1. It is believed that the amendments overcome the objections set forth in the office action, and such indication is respectfully requested.

Provisional Double Patenting Rejection

A terminal disclaimer of claims 25 and 26 with respect to co-pending U.S. patent application 09/694,873 is submitted with this Amendment. It is believed that the terminal disclaimer overcomes any future actual (rather than provisional) double patenting rejection of claims 25 and 26, and such indication is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections and Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-7, 9-15, 17, 33-36, and 38-41 remain in this application. Claims 8, 16, 18-32, and 42 have been cancelled.

The Examiner is thanked for his indication that claims 8, 16, 37, and 42 would be allowable if amended to include all of the limitations of the base claim and intervening claims. In response, independent claim 1 has been amended to include all of the limitations of allowable claim 8, which depends directly from claim 1. Independent claim 9 has been amended to include all of the limitations of allowable claim 16, which depends directly from claim 9. Independent claim 33 has been amended to include all of the limitations of allowable claim 37, which depends directly from claim 33. Finally, independent claim 38 has been amended to include all of the limitations of allowable claim 42, which depends directly from claim 38.

Thus, it is respectfully submitted that amended claims 1, 9, 33, and 38 are now in condition for allowance, and such indication is respectfully submitted. Additionally, claims 2-7, 10-15 and 17, 34-36, and 39-41 depend from and include all of the limitations of allowable independent claims 1, 9, 33, and 38, respectively. Thus, the remaining dependent claims are also in condition for allowance, and such indication is respectfully submitted.

This Amendment is being filed concurrently with a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement and the fee of \$180.00, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p). Additionally, this amendment is filed with the terminal disclaimer fee of \$55.00. As such, a check in the amount of \$235.00 is submitted herewith. Should any other fees or petitions be required, please

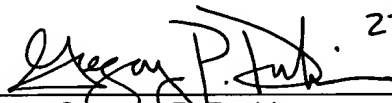
Appl.No. 09/695,102
Amdt. dated Sept. 27, 2004
Reply to Office action of Sept. 10, 2004

Express Mail Label No. EV 423772794 US

consider this a request therefor and authorization to charge Deposit Account No. 04-1415 as necessary.

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. If the Examiner has any questions or concerns, please call the undersigned attorney at (303) 629-3427.

Respectfully submitted,

By  27 SEPT 04

Gregory P. Durbin
Attorney Reg. No. 42,503
DORSEY & WHITNEY LLP
Customer No. 20686